

CLAIMS

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1. A laryngeal mask airway including a tubular portion (1) and a mask portion (5) at its patient end (3) having a sealing cuff (60) of generally oval shape defining an opening (61) within its centre and adapted to seal with patient tissue around the laryngeal inlet, the mask portion (5) defining a recess (54) extending from the opening (61) to the patient end (3) of the tubular portion (1), characterised in that the patient end (3) of the tubular portion (1) is located above and to the rear of the rear side (62) of the opening (61) such as to space it away from the epiglottis.
2. An airway according to Claim 1, characterised in that the patient end (3) of the tubular portion (1) is located substantially midway across the width of the rear side (62) of the sealing cuff (60).
3. An airway according to Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the tubular portion is a separate tube (1) bonded into a collar (51) on the mask portion (5).
4. An airway according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the longitudinal centre line along the internal surface of the roof (40) of the recess (54) is substantially straight.
5. An airway according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the height (H) of the recess (54) is between 2.5 and 3.5 the internal diameter of the tubular portion (1).
6. An airway according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the ratio of the internal diameter of the tubular portion (1) cubed to the volume of the recess (54) is between 50 and 68.
7. A laryngeal mask airway including a tubular portion (1) and a mask portion (5) at its patient end (3) having a sealing cuff (60) of generally oval shape defining an opening (61) within its centre and adapted to seal with patient tissue around the laryngeal inlet,

the mask portion (5) defining a recess (54) extending from the opening (61) to the patient end (3) of the tubular portion (1), characterised in that the height (H) of the recess (54) is between 2.5 and 3.5 the internal diameter of the tubular portion (1).

8. An airway according to Claim 7, characterised in that the height (H) of the recess (54) is between 2.96 and 3.27 the internal diameter of the tubular portion (1).
9. A laryngeal mask airway including a tubular portion (1) and a mask portion (5) at its patient end (3) having a sealing cuff (60) of generally oval shape defining an opening (61) within its centre and adapted to seal with patient tissue around the laryngeal inlet, the mask portion (5) defining a recess (54) extending from the opening (61) to the patient end (3) of the tubular portion (1), characterised in that the ratio of the internal diameter of the tubular portion (1) cubed to the volume of the recess (54) is between 50 and 68.
10. An airway according to Claim 9, characterised in that the ratio of the internal diameter of the tubular portion (1) cubed to the internal volume of the recess is between 50 and 60.

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